



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Camp Whispering Oaks Fire Preparedness Exercise		
PROJECT LOCATION	Camp Whispering Oaks is located approximately six miles southwest of the town of Julian. SW ¼ of Section 13, T 13S, R 3E, SBBM USGS 7.5' Quadrangle: Santa Ysabel, CA	COUNTY	San Diego
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Cheyenne Borello CAL FIRE – Monte Vista Headquarters		
ADDRESS	Pre-Fire/Resource Management Office 2249 Jamacha Rd El Cajon, CA 92019	PHONE	(619) 590-3100

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this proposed project is to provide a venue for CAL FIRE hand crews to participate in hand line construction training as part of the Departments required annual fire preparedness exercise. To accomplish this, CAL FIRE hand crews will construct a four foot wide hand line, in four distinct areas, totaling approximately 3,383 feet in length to simulate fire line construction. This will result in approximately one-third acre of disturbance. These lines, once constructed, will be used and maintained by the Girl Scouts of America (landowner) as hiking and access trails. Construction of these trails will be accomplished over a one day period using hand tools and chain saws. Removed vegetation and debris will be lopped and scattered over the adjacent brush covered areas.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 15302 (f) Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits within the description of a Class 4 Categorical Exemption listed in the CEQA Guidelines pertaining to minor alterations to land. After completing an environmental impact analysis, the Department has determined this project will have no significant impact on the environment. This determination is based on field assessments, CNDDDB search, informal consultation with US Fish and Wildlife Service personnel and archaeological review completed by CAL FIRE Archaeological staff.

Review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE MVU Headquarters in El Cajon.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 4/18/12
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection